



AF/1700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Jacobus Philippus Van Dyk et al. Art Unit : 1754
Serial No. : 09/744,531 Examiner : Steven J. Bos
Filed : January 25, 2001
Title : BENEFICATION OF TITANIA SLAG BY OXIDATION AND REDUCTION TREATMENT

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(M)

BOX AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed November 20, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1, 6 and 20 as follows:

-- 1. (Thrice Amended) A method of treating titania slag to increase the leachability of impurities from the slag comprising the steps of:
sizing the titania slag to a particle size from 75 to 850 μm ;
oxidizing the sized slag particles in an oxidizing atmosphere at a temperature from about 700°C to below about 900°C for at least 30 minutes;
stabilizing an anatase phase in the slag, causing the iron present in the slag to concentrate at the exposed surfaces of the slag particles, causing a major portion of the iron in the Fe(II) state to convert to the Fe(III) state, and causing the titanium in the Ti(III) state to be converted to the Ti(IV) state; and

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I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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Signature: Wanda Gray
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